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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

ARABIA.

Cholera in Yemen.

Consul Moser, at Aden, reports, January 27:

The consular agent at Hodeida reported January 17 that cholera was present at Bajil, a locality situated 25 miles east of Hodeida. Cholera subsequently appeared suddenly at Hodeida, with a daily average of 20 deaths. On January 21 official notice was received of the outbreak of cholera on the island of Perim, in the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb, where the pilgrim inspection camp is located, and that all vessels from Perim and Hodeida arriving at Aden would be quarantined five days.

Consul Moser further reported, February 1, that the town of Hodeida and the interior of Yemen were free from cholera as regarded the native population, but that it was present in epidemic form among the Turkish troops stationed at various points throughout the province, with a total to date of 233 cases, with 102 deaths.

CHINA.

Amoy—Plague.

Acting Asst. Surg. Bonthius reports, January 23:

During the past three weeks three deaths from plague have occurred at Kulangsu. Plague is present on Amoy Island, and one case has been reported in Amoy city.

HARBIN—Status of Plague.

Consul Greene reports, January 28:

The total number of deaths from plague at Harbin and Fuchiatien is reported as follows:

	Jan. 18-24, inclusive, 1911.	Total since beginning, Nov. 8, 1910.
Harbin.....	1 246	2 679
Fuchiatien.....	1, 010	2, 813
Total.....	1, 256	3, 492

¹ One European.

² Of this number 425 died in the plague hospitals and 254 were found dead. Fourteen were Europeans.

From these figures it will be seen that the daily average of deaths in Harbin has increased since the previous week from 28 to 35 and in Fuchiatién from 114 to 144. It is generally believed that about 200 persons are actually dying daily in Fuchiatién, and that altogether nearly 4,000 persons have thus far died there and in that immediate vicinity. Taking the official figures, a steady increase is shown.

The three English physicians referred to in my last report began regular work in Fuchiatién on January 23. The troops who were to assist in enforcing the quarantine and sanitary measures arrived January 27. Five hundred men were sent.

According to the railway company's reports, which do not include the dead bodies found, the number of cases and deaths on the railway lands has been as follows:

	Jan. 18-24, 1911.		Total since beginning, Oct. 23, 1910.	
	New cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Chinese.....	186	163	959	929
Europeans.....	3	3	28	26
Total.....	189	166	987	955

The Russian sanitary authorities here are maintaining four laboratories in which the necessary bacteriological examinations are made to verify the diagnoses of new cases, and in them independent experiments are also being conducted with animals to determine the nature of the disease and the manner in which it is communicated. No plague has thus far been found among the rats here, and apparently fleas have had little or nothing to do with spreading it.

Inoculations with Haffkine's vaccine are being made free of charge at two places in the city, and a number of private practitioners are also busy with this work. Nothing definite can yet be said as to the preventive value of this treatment with the type of plague prevailing here. Of the three European physicians (including one medical student who had nearly finished his course) who have died of the plague here, two had not received the injection at all, and the third had taken only the first of the two injections that are commonly given here. On the other hand, two Chinese doctors and several Russian assistants and attendants who had been properly inoculated have died of plague.

On account of this record, at least one of the bacteriologists here is inclining to the belief that the bacillus of pneumonic plague is different from that of the bubonic plague, and that therefore there is nothing to be gained by the use of vaccines or serums prepared from the latter.

It is worthy of note that very few Europeans have caught the plague—only 28 in all North Manchuria up to January 24—and that a large part of these have been persons whose duties brought them into close contact with the sick. In general the danger thus far appears to be very slight for persons who are able to live under proper sanitary conditions.

As might be expected, the epidemic is having a disastrous effect on trade. Only under exceptional conditions can Chinese merchants

now travel from place to place along the railway, while the danger from brigands and from the disease itself deters them from going by cart. Frequent outbreaks of plague among the laboring classes seriously interfere with all establishments employing Chinese labor, and prevent the prompt handling of freight; a large number of cars are taken out of the railway service to be used as quarters for persons under observation; ordinary communication with Fuchiatien is stopped, and foreign merchants hesitate to enter into any contracts with Chinese for fear that the latter may not live to carry out their engagements. Many Chinese firms have closed their doors entirely. Among the Russians, while there is less ground for fear, people are living as quietly as possible, some are leaving for Europe, and many of those living in the New Town are unwilling to go to the Pristan, the business section of the city, on account of their fear of the numerous Chinese there. The shops are suffering accordingly, and in fact it seems as if business in everything except the bare necessities of life was fast coming to a standstill.

Consul Greene further reports, January 30:

During the 4 days ended January 28 plague occurred at Harbin and Fuchiatien as follows:

	Jan. 25-28, 1911.	Total since beginning Nov. 8, 1910.
Harbin.....	1 152	2 831
Fuchiatien.....	589	3, 402
Total.....	741	4, 233

14 Europeans.

218 Europeans.

A Russian semiofficial estimate places the population of Harbin at 53,000, of which number 32,000 are supposed to be Europeans and 21,000 Asiatics, mainly Chinese. The Russian troops in and about the city would probably bring the total population to about 57,000. The population of Fuchiatien is supposed to be between 15,000 and 20,000. In all probability a fifth of its population has already perished.

It seems probable that on account of improved policing the returns from Fuchiatien now state more accurately than before the number of deaths occurring there.

TIENTSIN—Plague.

Consul General Knabenshue reports, January 21:

Three fatal cases of plague were reported from January 14 to 21. These cases appeared in a locality of the city in which a sudden death in the person of a Chinese recently arrived from Mukden occurred January 14.

Epidemic Pneumonic Plague in North China.

Consul General Knabenshue further reported, January 27:

According to the best information obtainable the present outbreak of pneumonic plague first appeared among the trappers on the plains of eastern Mongolia. A fur-bearing animal is exceedingly plentiful there which is called "han t'ah" by the Chinese. It is generally known among foreigners as the "land otter," and many of the skins